

Mid-Peninsula Sons In Retirement Branch #51

Website: www.sirinc2.org/branch51

No. 536
A Non-Profit Organization
For Retired Men



March 2021
Devoted to the Promotion of
Independence and Dignity of Retirement

LUNCHEON: 12 PM – FIRST WEDNESDAY – FREMONT HILLS CC, 12889 VISCAINO PL., LOS ALTOS, CA

General Membership:

More Good News!

Currently, San Mateo and Marin counties have moved from the Purple Tier to the Red Tier for COVID-19 restrictions. This means that San Mateo and Marin county restaurants can have indoor dining at 25% capacity with social distancing and mask wearing as best as possible. Also, this allows gyms, retail stores, barbers, museums, parks, theaters, etc. to open under the same Red Tier restrictions. Santa Clara county, and possibly other bay area counties, may join San Mateo and Marin counties in the Red Tier in the next week or so. Fortunately, the state has removed all stay-at-home lockdown conditions.

In addition to Pfizer/BioNtech, and Moderna vaccines, there is hope that the new vaccines from Johnson & Johnson, Oxford/AstraZeneca, Eli Lilly, plus others will help us get to herd immunity. However, beware, there are new, potential dangers from COVID-19 variants (CA, NYC, UK, South African, Brazilian, others) that are still a threat to us. Even if we had one or two vaccine shots, this not the time to relax our standard guard of wearing masks and keeping appropriate social distance between us. Ultimately, we may need a booster shot or even a differently designed vaccine. Bottom line, get your vaccine shots, protect yourself and others as best as you can. With effort and determination, we will get through this together. Stay tuned.

Next SIR General Membership Meeting (all members) for Wednesday, 3rd of March 2021 will be via Zoom with the General Membership Meeting

starting with a half hour social meeting at 12:30 PM after which our main meeting begins at:

1:00 PM

April’s Social and General Membership Meeting are on the first Wednesday of the month, at

Social Mtg - April 7, 2021, 12:30 PM.
Gen. Mtg - April 7, 2021, 1:00 PM.

For more information on our Zoom video conference meetings, check within this newsletter for details.

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Big SIR Notes:

From the computer of Jim Cummings

Fellow SIRs,

I hope all our members have been able to get vaccinated or are at least scheduled for vaccination. My own sojourn through the process went well. The first shot was problem-free but the second made me a zombie on the day after. Others have had similar experiences. A vaccine from Eli Lilly expects to be a single-dose product and is in the process of being approved for emergency use. The long term need for booster dose is still being debated.

General Interest

SIR 51 Board Meetings

Next virtual Board meeting will be held on the first Wednesday of March, the 3rd, at 11:00 AM. Please start logging into the virtual meeting at 10:45 AM. For more details, please contact either Big SIR, Jim Cummings (cell:650/207-3609), or Secretary, Gerry Shebar (650/868-6124).

See the list of 2021 officers and committee chairmen at the end of this newsletter.

February's board meeting had 12 attendees.

SIR 51 General Membership Meeting

A Zoom invitation will be sent for the March meeting for you to click a link to join the scheduled meeting. Last month's February General Membership Zoom meeting was attended by 24 SIR members.

Try to join our March General Membership Zoom meeting to see and talk with your fellow members. It is fun and interesting for all. Please remember to avoid making background noise or, easier, just mute your sound while in the meeting to help the video meeting be more enjoyable for all.

2021 Membership Roster

As a reminder, the SIR Branch 51 Membership Roster has been updated and is available only in electronic form. Members were sent electronic file versions of the roster. If you have any corrections to your profile data, please contact our Membership Chairman, Gerry Shebar at (659) 868-6124. Also, the roster file has been archived on our branch website.

SIR 51 Website

SIR Branch 51 website provides helpful information on our activities and archives our news. Should you have inputs for our website, please contact our website master, Gerry Shebar at (650) 868-6124.

www.sirinc2.org/branch51

State SIR Newsletter

The State SIR President, Stu Williams, has sent an e-mail message to all SIR members state-wide with a link to the State SIR newsletter. If you have not reviewed it yet, it is lengthy, yet informative about our greater organization.

Also, see State SIR website: www.sirinc.org

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Craig's Current Contributions:

Courtesy of former Big SIR, Craig Carpenter

Got my second COVID-19 vaccine shot a week ago...hope you have/or will soon. It's GREAT being over 75! Who knew?

GOOD READS FOR GUYS:

Three Hours In Paris by Cara Black. One American riflewoman, one impossible spy mission. One shot at changing the course of history.

The Sentinel by Lee Child & Andrew Child. Another in the Jack Reacher series. Rule #1, if you don't know the trouble you're in, keep Reacher by your side.

Imperfect Union by Steve Inskeep. How Jessie & John Fremont mapped the West, invented celebrity, and helped cause the Civil War.

The Trident Deception by Rick Campbell. The best novel about a submarine since Tom Clancy's classic, *The Hunt For Red October*.

American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins. A *Grapes of Wrath* for our times.

The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides. "A totally original, spellbinding psychological mystery...so unique that it should have its own genre".

STUFF TO WATCH ON THE TUBE:

The Food That Made America Great on the History Channel on Sunday nights.

Snowman on Amazon Prime

Firefly Lane on Netflix. Two female best pals in Seattle & where life takes them. Hint...your wife will love this show. Too many F Bombs, but such is life.

Dead To Me on Netflix. Another chick flick, but darn good.

A Place to Call Home on Amazon Prime. A six-season series set in rural, New South Wales, Australia.

Netflix movie *I Care A Lot* starring Rosamund Pike. Perfectly directed, well-acted, and, if you liked the movie *Fargo* with all its quirkiness, you will love this movie!

RECENT COMMENTS FROM SIR MEMBERS:

Where do you find a dog with no legs?
"Right where you left him". Jim Cummings

How are a Texas tornado and a Tennessee divorce the same?
"Somebody's gonna lose a trailer". Ray Klinke

What's the difference between a bad golfer and a bad sky diver?
A bad golfer goes whack, dang!
A bad sky diver goes dang, whack! Steve Tremulis

Question: "You've been having trouble going to sleep. Are you a man or a woman?"
Gerry Shebar..."that's what's been keeping me awake"

True or false, a pea can last as long as 5,000 years.
Jeff Gardiner... "Boy it sure seems that way sometimes".

If you're going to make a parachute jump, how high should you be?
Sam Meredith..."Three days of steady drinking should do it."

THAT'S ALL FOLKS! SEE YOU NEXT MONTH!

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ACTIVITIES

GOLF



With the state and county removing some COVID-19 restrictions, and the State SIR leadership allowing outdoor activities, golf is now allowed to be played.

If any of you are interested in playing as individuals, you might want to check with the courses as to tee time availability.

The 2021 golf schedule has been arranged and the Excel golf file was sent out in February. Check for your file copy or at the SIR 51 website. Below are the dates, times, and locations for March and April.

	Mar 02, Tue	Mar 10, Wed	Mar 17, Wed	Mar 24, Wed	Mar 31 Wed
MAR	Poplar Creek	Spring Valley	Shoreline	Los Lagos	Crystal Springs
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
				note	
	Apr 06, Tue	Apr 14, Wed.	Apr 21, Wed.	Apr 28, Wed	
APR	Moffett Field	Sunnyvale	Los Lagos	Poplar Creek	
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	

Same table, but color-coded for March and April.

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- Crystal Springs
- Los Lagos
- Moffett Field
- Poplar Creek
- Poppy Hills
- San Jose
- Shoreline
- Spring Valley
- Sunnyvale

Courtesy of Golf Course Coordinator:

KAI JOHANSEN
(650) 853-2493

Also, contact Big SIR, Jim Cummings, as a mutual supporter for golf news.

JIM CUMMINGS
home: (650) 328-2168
cell: (650) 207-3609

Check if the following activities are going to occur with the recent COVID-19 stay-at-home order lifted and new Red Tier level for San Mateo and Marin counties. Check to see if Santa Clara county has been upgraded to the Red Tier level. Keep in mind, some restrictions are still in place.

COMPUSIR



COMPUSIR is a self-help Computer discussion group. Normally, it meets monthly at the PALO ALTO ELKS LODGE 4249 EL CAMINO REAL, PALO ALTO. Check first if meetings are being held by Zoom, or not at all. When in-person meetings can be held access is by the following method. For entry, use the announce button on the pedestal to the left of the Front door. **COMPUSIR** is now part of SPAUG (the **S**tanford – **P**alo **A**lto **U**sers **G**roup). SPAUG Meetings are still held the **SECOND WEDNESDAY** of each month at 7:00 pm, when possible in-person, at PA Elks Lodge (address above). The meeting is upstairs (elevator available past the stairway). More information at www.spaug.net.

MACINTOSH USERS

Contact Skip Ross to join this e-mail group where SIR members in all branches can exchange MAC-related news, get answers to questions and share experiences.

SKIP ROSS (541) 857-6224

INDOOR BOWLING (BRANCHES 5, 35 & 51)



We bowl on a handicap system, so all have an equal chance. Each season teams are revised and always have a mix of players by ability. When possible with less COVID-19 restrictions, we meet on **Tuesdays at Homestead Lanes: Homestead and Stelling in Sunnyvale from 1-3 PM.** Be there by **12.45 PM.** New bowlers are always welcome at any level of experience. If you're new, it's easier if you call me (Bob Taggart) in advance so we will be prepared. Spouses, women friends are welcome – there are now 10 co-ed teams.

YOU CAN JOIN ANYTIME

A ball and shoes are available at the bowling lanes. Looking for some exercise that does not rely on good weather? Indoor 10-pin bowling is a fun, low-impact bowling skill that comes back after a long lay-off. Many have not bowled since they were youngsters. For more information, contact:

BOB TAGGART (650) 321-2654, Br 35

LAWN BOWLING:



Check if Lawn Bowling is able to meet and play. We meet on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 9:30 AM at Palo Alto Lawn Bowls Club, 474 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto. Players need to be 15 minutes early to be entered into the draw for teams. Free coaching is available for new players. Contact:

DON HUGHES (650) 323-9916

TENNIS:



When possible during the COVID-19 pandemic, check first to see if our tennis group meets which happens on Mondays and Thursdays at Rinconada Park in Palo Alto. Please be there by 8:30 AM when doubles teams will be formed. Late arrivals will play as sets are completed. We play an open spin-in doubles format. Play level is about 2.5. We welcome non-SIRS, so bring a friend.

BILL KAMIN (650) 322-4300

CYCLING:

SIRS ON BIKES:

2nd Thursday, March 11, 2021, 11:00 a.m.
Wives and guests are welcome. Rain cancels,
Helmet required, mask required.

SIR Bicycle Ride Protocols are to be Followed.

March 11, 2021: Michael's at shoreline (Mt. View)
to University Ave and Highway 84 (Menlo Park)

It is good to get "Back in the saddle again." For the first ride of the year, we thought that a familiar and nearby ride was appropriate. We will ride from the parking lot at Michael's at Shoreline and end up at the restaurants across from Facebook. We will take the familiar Bay trail to the Embarcadero Road and bypass the Duck Pond (DO NOT go to the Duck Pond). We will follow the Bay Trail on up to the new Ravenswood Preserve (which is a new path what cuts out almost all the streets). We will come together at the University Ave and Highway 84. We will then go across from Facebook, or ride to the apex of the Dumbarton Bridge.

Directions: Take Bay Shore freeway (101) to North Shoreline exit. Exit on to North Shoreline Blvd and continue on N. Shoreline Blvd to the shoreline Ranger Station, enter and continue to Michael's restaurant parking lot.

If there any questions, contact me at (408) 252-6804) or Gordon Tong at (408) 242-0557. Let us know if you are riding so we can wait for you.

The new, bicycle protocols are:

Revised SIR Branch 35 Riding Group Protocols:

1. All riders are encouraged (but not mandatory) to receive the first and second Covid-19 vaccine injections.
2. All riders are **not** to carpool to designated rides. Biking to designated starting points of rides is acceptable.
3. For the safety of all riders, ride only if one is feeling 100% healthy.

4. Riders must wear a biking helmet and some type of face mask. Riders are encouraged to bring hand sanitizer because public restrooms may not always be open.

5. We will designate a lead rider at the front of the group and a designated sweeper behind the last rider. All riders will stay between the designated lead and sweeper.

6. We will stagger riders in groups of 2 - 3 with the first group departing, followed by the next group of riders 2-3 minutes later and continue with this staggered process until all riders have departed.

7. Riders will ride single file and maintain a minimum 50' distance from the rider immediately in front. Riders can pass each other as long as there is a safe margin to pass.

8. When the designated lead rider stops for a group water or restroom break, all riders will stop and maintain a minimum 6 feet distance from each other.

9. Riders are encouraged to bring their lunch or order takeout food. The designated lead rider will find a suitable area to eat lunch and ensure proper social distancing.

10. When riders are eating lunch with their mask off, the minimum distance from each other will be 10 feet.

11. Ride back to our designated ride starting point in the same manner.

This is the riding master list for 2021. It may change as the year goes by, so the final word is in the month's newsletter.

~~January 14, 2021~~

~~Stevens Creek/Shoreline Park (Mt. View), no ride~~

~~February 11, 2021~~

~~Coyote Creek (South San Jose), no ride~~

March 11, 2021

~~Coyote Hills-Alameda Creek (Fremont/Niles), Michael's (Mt. V) to Univ Ave/Hway 84 (Menlo Park). See above.~~

April 8, 2021

Foster City Bay Trail

May 13, 2021

Brisbane Bayshore Trail

June 10, 2021

Guadalupe Trail--(Alviso to San Jose)

July 8, 2021

Sawyer Camp Trail / San Andreas Trail

August 12, 2021

San Leandro-Alameda Ride

September 9, 2021

Mt. View to Alviso

October 14, 2021

Half Moon Bay

November 11, 2021

Los Gatos Creek Trail

December 2021 No ride

(If the weather is good, the riders may pick a ride)

If you have questions, please contact Jim Lunt or Gordon Tong as per below.

JAMES LUNT (408) 252-6804, Cell: (408) 921-5085

GORDON TONG (408) 242-0557

NON-RESPOSIBILITY DECLARATION:

All activities arranged for or by, or sponsored by, Sons in Retirement, Inc., and its Branches, are for the convenience and pleasure of the members and their guests who desire to participate. Sons in Retirement, Inc., and its Branches do not assume any responsibility for the well-being or safety of the participants or their property, in any matters pertaining to said activities.

STATE SIR TRAVEL INFORMATION



For information on State SIR travel, go to the State SIR website listed below, and click on “Region and Area Info”, click on “Resources”, click on “More Information”, then look for “Travel Management Information” section which has sub-links to travel agencies, bus companies, and a travel handbook. Also, one can use “Search Here” box at the base of the page using the word “travel”.

STATE SIR WEBSITE

www.sirinc.org

SIR BRANCH 51 NEWSLETTER

If you have any inputs, suggestions or feedback to add or improve the newsletter, please let me know.

Also, if you wish to add material to the newsletter, inputs for the next newsletter should be submitted between the 15th and 20th of the month prior to the next newsletter.

Newsletter Editor:

Richard Jamison
(650) 868-3723

2021 SIR BRANCH #51 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Big SIR: Jim Cummings 328-2168
Little SIR: (Open)
Secretary: Gerry Shebar 868-6124
Asst. Secretary: Richard Jamison 868-3723
Treasurer: Kingsley Wood 799-8420
Asst. Treasurer: Kevin Wheaton 485-2276

DIRECTORS

Director: Joe Grippo 948-2130
Director: Sam Meredith 325-4152
Director: Craig Carpenter 325-4152

ACTIVITIES CHAIRMEN

Indoor Bowling: Bob Taggart (Br 35) 321-2654
Lawn Bowling: Don Hughes 323-9916
Cycling: Jim Lunt (Br. 35) (408) 252-6804
Tennis: Bill Kamin 322-4300
Golf: Kai Johansen 853-2493
Jim Cummings 328-2168
Travel: State SIR Travel: www.sirinc.org
Compusir: Stanford-PA Users Group www.spaug.net
Macintosh Users: Skip Ross (541) 857-6224
Historian: (Open)

New Board Members

Jeff Gardiner 561-9661
Ray Klinke 924-0734
Mike McMahan 493-7392

ADMINISTRATIVE CHAIRMEN

Attendance: Kingsley Wood 799-8420
Audit: Sam Meredith 325-4152
Russ Porter 234-1212
Website: Gerry Shebar 868-6124
Asst. Website: Art Lewis 964-3223
Newsletter: Richard Jamison 868-3723
Good Samaritan: Bob Guffey 593-3496
Member Orientation: Bob Guffey 593-3496
Luncheon Programs: Steve Tremulis 598-9790
Membership: Gerry Shebar 868-6124
Asst. Membership: (Open)
Greeter: Al Runge 592-1345
Special Events: (Open)
Nominating Committee: Jim Cummings 328-2168
Steve Tremulis 598-9790
Craig Carpenter 325-4152

All telephone numbers are in the 650 area code, except where noted differently.

All changes in address, telephone number, and e-mail address needs to be reported to the SIR Branch 51,
Acting Membership Committee Chairman:

Gerry Shebar,
3345 Stockton PL.,
Palo Alto, CA 94303
(650) 868-6124

“All the news that fits we print”

Anonymous